# Light Bulb Puller

## Continuation in Part

Inventor: Ralph Wessel

3166 Shearer Avenue

Cayucos, CA 93430

(805) 995-2565

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Field of Search 29/764, 445/61, 81/426.5, 29/274, 29/278

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### Background

This invention was developed to fill a need to have a small tool that is easy to use when removing or replacing small Christmas tree type lamp bulbs.

The Christmas tree bulbs are small (overall size approximately. 1") with a plastic bottom that fits tightly into a plastic receptacle or base. The plastic bottom of the lamp has a shoulder on top. This bottom fits into a base connected to the electric cord.

The difficulty occurs when it becomes necessary to replace them with a different bulb. To insure good electrical contact it is necessary that the two plastic surfaces fit together very tightly. With the small size and tight fit it becomes difficult to release the lamp from its' base. We have tried pliers, side cutters and fingernails to pry the lamp from its' base. The side cutters were the best but were too clumsy. Using one's fingernail often results in broken nails. So we put the advantage of side cutters into a small easy to use tool. This would be especially helpful for those who have difficulty due to arthritis or age. This tool was designed to do this job easily and at little manufacturing cost.

The tool may be made out of metal or plastic.

## Brief Summary of Invention

The tool consists of a simple "U" shaped unit with the top of the "U" bent inward and notched to allow it to grasp the plastic bottom of a small light bulb and extract it from its base. It could be made from metal or plastic.

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It could also be made in a circular, oblong, rectangular, or triangular shape with or without the inward bend.

## Description of the Drawing.

Figure 1 - top view

Figure 2 - end view

Figure 3 - side view

Figure 4 - sketch of a hand with the tool in use.

Figure 5 - sketch of typical small bulb

Figure 6 - sketch - example of circular tool

## Detailed Description

The tool consists of a flat piece of metal or a synthetic material, formed into a "U" shape with the open end of the U bent inward at 90 degrees to the side as in Figure 1. When pressure is placed on the outside of the "U" the two ends come together. Each of the ends has a notch, as in Figure 2, just large enough to fit around the lamp sockets in Figure 4, No.2.

The notch can be beveled to fit in the location where the lamp bottom's shoulder Figure 5, No.3 meets the base Figure 5, No.4.

Side pressure on the tool compresses the tool and clamps onto the lamp base. A slight outward pull releases the lamp from its base. Releasing the side pressure on the tool allows the lamp to be released. A very simple and effective movement.

The tool should be made with just enough stiffness or spring to return to its' original shape when pressed as shown in Figure 4 but still be easy to compress.

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While the preferred shape is a "U" shape, it may also be in a circular as in Sketch 6, oblong, or rectangular shape with or without the 90 degree bend.